Sanitized - Approved For Release անկեր

FOIAb3b ·

• The Veterans of Foreign Wars, in their annual convention assembled, awarded their Americanism Gold Medal to Clarence L. Johnson of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation for designing the U-2 reconnaissance plane "which has enabled the U.S. to strengthen its security through necessary surveillance of unfriendly foreign territory." In his speech of acceptance, Mr. Johnson remarked that in developing the U-2, "it was essential that we learned how to keep our mouths closed." Not a bad thing to learn, he feels. "It would be a splendid idea if we could carry out this tactic in a large number of other defense fields [such as missile launching locations]. As a nation, we certainly run off at the mouth. Why can't we shut up and make things at least a little harder for our opponent?" Obviously Francis Powers was not trained at Lockheed.

CPYRGHT